

September 7, 1962

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A LETTER
FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

September 7, 1962

Dear Mr. President: (Dear Mr. Speaker:)

I transmit herewith a draft of a proposed bill to authorize the President to order units and members in the Ready Reserve to active duty for not more than twelve months, and for other purposes.

In my judgment this renewed authorization is necessary to permit prompt and effective responses, as necessary, to challenges which may be presented in any part of the free world, and I hope that the Congress will give its prompt support to this authorization, as it did, so effectively, a year ago.

Sincerely,

JOHN F. KENNEDY

Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson
President of the Senate
Washington, D. C.

Honorable John W. McCormack
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

A bill to authorize the President to order units and members in the Ready Reserve to active duty for not more than twelve months, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that,

notwithstanding any other provision of law, until February 28, 1963, the President may, without the consent of the persons concerned, order any unit, and any member not assigned to a unit organized to serve as a unit, in the Ready Reserve of an armed force to active duty for not more than twelve consecutive months. However, not more than one hundred fifty thousand members of the Ready Reserve may be on active duty (other than for training), without their consent, under this section at any one time.

SECTION 11. Notwithstanding, any other provision of law, until February 28, 1963, the President may authorize the Secretary of Defense to extend enlistments, appointments, periods of active duty, periods of active duty for training, periods of obligated service or other military status, in any component of an armed force or in the National Guard that expire before February 28, 1963, for not more than twelve months. However, if the enlistment of a member of the Ready Reserve who is ordered to active duty under the first section of this Act would expire after February 28, 1963, but before he has served the entire period for which he was so ordered to active duty, his enlistment may be extended until the last day of that period.

SECTION 3. No member of the Ready Reserve who was involuntarily ordered to active duty under the Act of August 1, 1961, Public Law 87-117 (75 stat. 242), may be involuntarily ordered to active duty under this Act.

SECTION 4. This Act becomes effective on the day after the eighty-seventh Congress adjourns sine die.